

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 045190

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S/S -JPMOFFAT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045190

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, RP (MARCOS, MRS. IMELDA)

SUBJECT: MRS. MARCOS' VPI VISIT

REF: MANILA 2177

1. WE UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE BEHIND YOUR SUGGESTION, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT FOR US TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE, PARTICULARLY AT THIS EARLY DATE, MIGHT STIMULATE RATHER THAN PRE-EMPT MRS. MARCOS. ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION IN THE PAST, SHE USED A MEETING WITH MRS. NIXON TO PRESS HARDER FOR A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT NIXON. THEREFORE, OUR INCLINATION IS TO WAIT FOR HER REQUEST FOR A CALL ON THE PRESIDENT, AND TO DECIDE AT THAT TIME WHETHER TO RESPOND WITH AN INVITATION FROM MRS. FORD FOR TEA, IF HER SCHEDULE PERMITS. WE WOULD TRY TO STRUCTURE ANY MEETING WITH MRS. FORD IN SUCH A WAY AS TO FEND OFF PRESSURE FOR A SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT.

2. WE ALSO WANT TO CONSIDER PHILIPPINE INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE NEXT TWO TO THREE MONTHS AS THEY MIGHT AFFECT A MEETING WITH MRS. FORD.

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KISSINGER

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